

FROM ROANOKE, VA.

We are just emerging from our winter quarters, and have very little to write of the work of the last three months. The season has been one of extraordinary severity, and no special religious work could be executed. We had arranged for several series of meetings, but the weather was an absolute bar to such enterprises. The elements are more favorable now, and we are preparing for the Spring campaign. On last Sunday we began a revival at Boone's chapel, a preaching point ten miles south of Roanoke, but on account of rains and bad roads, it is suspended until the 5th Sunday. The manifestation of special interest was encouraging, and we look forward to a beautiful harvest. We will open several other preaching points in the surrounding country this Spring. Brother John Bowman, the pastor of the city congregation, did the preaching at Boone's chapel. Brother John is a fearless advocate of Progressive principles, and his methods of reasoning are persuasive and convincing.

We lost a valient soldier of the cause of progression, in the removal of Brother Sulphin of Floyd Co., Va., to Girard, Ill. We regretted very much to lose his wise counsels and loyal spirit, but Illinois gains what we lose. We cheerfully commend him to the King's Children wherever he may "pitch his tent." I have been much exercised in spirit of late, on the subject of a union of the separated brethren of the Dunker faith. It is apparent to close observers of our current history that the original causes of disunion have almost absolutely ceased to be subjects of contention. Sunday-schools, revival meetings, Educational institutions, Missionary operations, Book and Tract work, and nearly every other method of building up and extending the Master's kingdom, of modern origin, has been adopted by the great body of disciples from whom the Brethren sprang, and, with the disappearance of the causes of division, union should succeed.

The prevalence of the "order" as a distinguishing characteristic of the original organization has largely become obsolete in practice, especially with the brethren, and in many places the sisters are not restricted to the *ancient forms of dress*. A pertinent question arises here as to the desirability of a union. I am assured by brethren of great weight in the counsels of the G. B. brethren, that such a movement would meet with their hearty and prayerful consideration. Every lover of our Savior will hail with joy an effort to heal the sad breach that the ill-advised movements of the early eighties made in the

once solid band of primitive worshippers, and great grace would come upon us all under the influence of such an effort, and our power for good would be much increased should such an effort prove successful.

Suppose our spring Conference "take counsel" and send a memorial to our August General Conference, asking the appointment of a commission of, say, six brethren, distributed geographically, to meet a similar commission appointed by the G. B. A. C., and let the joint commissions meet in Conference and adjust the details of such a contemplated union, and let the 100,000 members of the organizations pray for the Father's blessing on the work of reuniting his separated children. Much forbearance, much love, much grace, much wisdom, and much faith will be required to bring good results and the end is worthy of the means. What does Brother H. Holsinger say, and what do we hear from Brother Shaver of Shenandoah? Will brother A. D. Gnagey say "with all my heart", and do we err in estimating favorably the weight of brother P. J. Brown's counsels.

Will the proposition quicken the loyal heart of Elder J. W. Beer and will S. J. Harrison make his "amen" to resound from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Will not the city of brotherly love send the approval of our perpetual revivalist, I. D. Bowman, and will not a great multitude of others whose names are written in the lamb's book of life respond with a voice like that of many waters in favor of a movement so entirely in accord with our dear Saviour's last great prayer, "That all his people may be one, even as he and his Father are one."

Elder D. L. Miller's proposition in the late issue of the G. M., to have a great gathering together of the faithful in the Spring of 1900 was a happy inspiration and we say "amen" with all our heart, but let us in the meantime bring "the separated saints into one fold and such rejoicing over the reunion of parents and children, brothers and sisters and husbands and wives, this century never saw. May the Lord bless our efforts to that end. I speak assuredly when I say that the G. B. A. M. will appoint a commission to meet ours and no captious opposition will be suffered to prevail against the movement. Some may surmise that we are beginning to despair of success in our effort to build up an organization based on our interpretation of the New Testament. We respond by saying that while there are isolated cases of weakness, the percentage of gain throughout our congregations will compare favorably with

any other new organization. Our Publication and Educational interests are on a solid foundation and are prospering, and our increase of membership is numbered by hundreds and thousands. It is not to secure a peaceful spiritual home, but to glorify God in the reunion of his disciples that we wish and pray for such a consummation.

D. C. MOOMAW.

COMMUNION NOTICE.

The Ashland City church will hold a communion service in the College Chapel, Wednesday evening, May 8. All are invited to be present. Members of the Fair Haven and Homer churches please take notice.

J. ALLEN MILLER, Pastor.

FROM LOUISVILLE, OHIO.

April 1, I entered upon my third year's work at this place. Our Sunday-schools are in a prosperous condition and prospects for a large ingathering during the coming year are good. Baptized one sister at Louisville since our last report. Received into the church during the year, twenty-eight members. Received fifty-six in the two years, with quite a number, who have signified their willingness to come soon.

Fraternally,

J. L. KEIMMEL.

COMMUNION NOTICE.

The Brethren at Tiosa, Ind., will hold their spring communion on Monday evening, May 6, 1895. All of like precious faith are invited to come and be with us.

The Brethren at New Enterprise will hold communion service on Saturday evening before the third Sunday in May, May 18, 1895. A special invitation is extended to all to come and be with us. We need your presence. Come.

Fraternally yours,

D. A. HOPKINS, Pastor.

FROM CORNELL, ILL.

Since our last report brother S. J. Harrison was here and delivered a temperance lecture. He also preached four very good sermons. He could not stay with us any longer, as he had promised to be at Nappanee, Ind., April 20, to hold a revival meeting. We hope he will come again and stay longer. We ask an interest in all your prayers.

April 22.

MISS ISABELLA MAST.

COMMUNION NOTICE.

The Brethren of the Maple Grove congregation Ind., will hold their communion services Saturday evening, May 12. All of like faith are invited.

WM. W. SUMMERS, Pastor.